

Thursday At Three

By David Graham Phillips

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Dayton opened his mouth several times before he could articulate, "I did not—that is—"

"Then who was it? Where is he?"

Lord Frampton looked angrily around. "I insist upon an explanation, sir!"

"Excuse me just a few minutes. I must finish dressing. I was and I wasn't there. I'll explain." Dayton withdrew to the bedroom, pulling the portiere over the doorway.

He hurried into his clothes and returned to the sitting room. He stood before Lord Frampton, looking ashamed, repentant, honest. "I am going to make a clean breast of it, sir," he said. "I could not keep my engagement with you yesterday. I did not wish to lose the interview. I sent a perfectly competent man, thinking it made no difference to you, as you did not know me or care especially who did the interview, so long as it was done properly."

"But where is he? Where is he?" Lord Frampton tapped his cane angrily on the floor.

"I—I don't know, sir. I—"

"This is outrageous. A person representing himself to be a Fenimore Dayton, an American journalist, wrote me a note. I don't know what demon of ill luck possessed me. I had never submitted to an interview. I am a very old man and in poor health. I permit no strangers to come near me. But something—perhaps in the note—I don't know—at any rate, I consented to receive this person at my club. He, or some one representing himself to be him, came, and we talked for about two hours. He was most agreeable, most intelligent, but he had been drinking—at least I feared so—I became nervous about the interview. He promised to bring me what he had written last night. As he did not, I came here this morning. I wish to recall the interview. I forbid the publication of a word from me. I shall hold you responsible, sir! It is an outrage! It is scandalous! I shall protest publicly, sir!"

"I have no excuse to offer, sir," said Dayton humbly. "I can only throw myself on your mercy. But first let me say that your interview is safe—at least it has not been published and will not be." Then he went on to confess the whole truth, holding back nothing—his love for a young American, the impossibility of keeping both engagements and the impossibility of breaking either. "And I suppose, sir," he said in conclusion, "that Carpenter slipped away and took several drinks before seeing you and then kept on drinking afterward. In spite of his habits, sir, there isn't a man in the world more competent to get such an interview than Henry Carpenter."

"Hasn't he written on sociology?" inquired Lord Frampton. He had been interrupting Dayton's narrative with a descending series of exclamations, beginning with "Shocking!" and "Depraved!" and "Insolent!" and ending with such milder ejaculations as "Most astonishing!" "Extraordinary!" "Surprising!"

"Yes," replied Dayton eagerly, entering the opening and hurrying on to remind Lord Frampton of the titles and subjects of Carpenter's best known essays.

Lord Frampton was somewhat mollified. He said: "It was a disgraceful trick to play upon an old man, sir, but I've been young myself. You Americans—a wonderful people, sir, but—with a sudden twinkling in his old eyes—"will you get the young lady?"

"I think so," said Dayton.

"I don't doubt it if impudence is as effective with the ladies as it was when I was a young fellow," Lord Frampton chuckled.

"Would you mind if I showed you a photograph of her, sir?" asked Dayton, shamelessly using his bride to be as a pacifier of the old man's wrath. He brought the photograph, a fair haired, clear eyed girl with a resolute face looking straight out of the picture at you.

"A fine American type," said Lord Frampton.

They talked for a few minutes of America, then Lord Frampton suddenly remembered his wrongs and was angry all over again. "I am very old," he said peevishly. "This will shorten my life. And where, sir, is that associate of yours, this Carpenter?"

"I'll find him," said Dayton, and after he had hastily taken coffee and a roll they set out for the far end of Pimlico. They found Carpenter's lodgings down a dismal alley in a house which, had it been built of wood instead of stone, would have been obliterated decades before. A plucked New England female face answered the knock at the door to which the slattern in charge had directed them.

"What do you want?" said she, in what is sometimes called the "pie and pickles" voice.

"Where is Mr. Carpenter?"

"That's what I'd like to know," Mrs. Carpenter answered.

A few minutes' talk made it clear that no news was to be got there. "We'll have to look for him," said Dayton, as if they were sure to find him. And on the way back to the Piccadilly-Strand district he tried to persuade Lord Frampton to go quietly to his club and wait.

"No," said Lord Frampton crossly. "I go with you. Really, Mr. Dayton, this is a most extraordinary proceeding. When peace and quiet are absolutely necessary to me, I find myself rushing about London in search of a wild drunken creature. My whole life has been spent in quiet, and now, at ninety, thanks to my accused folly in answering a note from a wandering American journalist—I must have been out of my mind! I feel like pinching myself to see whether I am awake. I shall

not leave you until we find him. I must look to my reputation. Why did I—why did I answer that devilish note?"

Toward 9 at night Dayton, in the effort to calm one of the old man's tirades—he was very tired and sleepy—told him that Elsie and he were to be married on Monday. "As her mother won't consent, we shall go quietly to the American consulate. I've arranged it all with a friend of mine."

"Most extraordinary!" muttered Lord Frampton. "More impudence! And what am I doing here—at my age—in my health?"

"Will you come?" interrupted Dayton.

"Come! Come where?"

"To the wedding. We'd be delighted."

Lord Frampton stared. "God bless my soul!" he ejaculated. "Am I dreaming? I—invited to take part in a runaway marriage—!"

"I suppose you're afraid there might be a mistake and you'd be the bridegroom."

Lord Frampton smiled, then chuckled, then laughed. But they were just at Carpenter's lodgings—their fourth visit. Yes, Carpenter had returned, had staggered in about an hour before, and was now upstairs. His wife opened the door. There he lay upon the bed, his clothes torn and mud bedaubed.

"Roll 'im on the floor," suggested the eldest boy. "Let me throw water on 'im. Mar'm always does, don't you, mar'm?"

All, including the renowned philosopher, who used his cane vigorously as a prod, joined in the effort to revive the drunken man. When he at last opened his eyes Dayton said, "Here, here, Carpenter, where's that interview?" and kept on shaking him to prevent his lapsing into the stupor.

"Pocket," mumbled Carpenter. "Iss a gran' ol' man. Of Frampy passed it out hot. Gran' ol' man, Frampy."

Dayton reached into the inside pocket of the coat and drew out a notebook.

"Ha!" Of Frampy clutched it, put on his eyeglasses and glanced over the pages. "Yes, this is it. I never expected to see it. Bless me, what a relief!"

Dayton gave Mrs. Carpenter a sovereign, "on account," he said, for lack of any other disguise of the charity, "and when he comes around tell him I want to see him."

Dayton and Lord Frampton hurried away.

"Where shall I set you down, sir?" said Dayton.

Lord Frampton gave the number of a private hotel in Dover street. They drove in silence for ten minutes, then the philosopher chuckled. Dayton glanced at him furtively. He had been devising a plan for approaching the subject of the interview. Perhaps he could induce Lord Frampton to give up the notebook. When the old man chuckled again he ventured to speak.

"Will you forgive me, sir?"

"Forgive you, you young rascal? I oughtn't, but—it is certainly very ridiculous—how my friends, my readers all over the world, would laugh if they could know what I've been doing." He chuckled again.

"Then you'll come to the American consulate on Monday at 10—to the wedding?"

"The spirit of adventure has got into my blood. Yes, I'll be there—if I don't die of the reaction."

"And that interview?"

"There, there! Not a word about that. I'll overlook it."

"But I mean—it's a great impertinence to ask it—only—"

Lord Frampton turned in the cab and looked at Dayton's calm, earnest face in amazement. "You don't mean, my dear sir, that you are daring to ask me to—no! It's impossible. Even you wouldn't dare!"

"But, sir, it seems a shame for you to have all this annoyance for nothing. I can transcribe the notes and have them typewritten and bring them to you. And if you are not satisfied you can tear them up or use them for some other purpose."

Lord Frampton was laughing. "I have always held," said he, "that surprising results were to come from your race under the political, social and geographic conditions of the new world. But I must say—"

"And," pursued Dayton, "I could enable it over tomorrow for Sunday's paper, and I'm sure it would be a great hit. The Americans are tremendous admirers and readers of your work."

(To Be Continued.)

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INTERESTING

PROGRAM FOR STATE EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION IN JUNE.

Prof. Sugg Will Deliver Address on "Manual Training in Public Schools."

The program for the state educational meeting to be held June 13 and 24 at Bowling Green, Ky., shows the name of Prof. W. H. Sugg, of Paducah. He will read a paper on "Manual Training in the Public Schools."

Prof. Sugg and Miss Emma Morgan are two Paducah educators who were honored with a place on the state program.

Among the most important papers and addresses on the program are the following:

"A Square Deal for the Children," Dr. J. E. Kean, president.

"Manual Training in the Public Schools," W. H. Sugg, principal Paducah schools.

"Reminiscences of Forty Years in the Work," J. J. Glenn, editor Glenn's Graphic Madisonville.

"Recent Evidence of Educational Improvement," William J. Craig, principal Owensboro high school.

"Our Open Door," Dr. George J. Ramsey, president Sayre Institute, Lexington.

"Educational Tendencies," M. E. Wood, principal Hodgenville graded schools.

"An Ideal County Superintendent," Miss Nellie E. Field, superintendent Morgan county schools.

"How to Improve the Work of the Inefficient Teacher," J. R. Coyle, principal Leitchfield graded schools.

"The Relation of the High School to the Lower Grades," Mrs. Hannah Sloan, Somerset.

"The Proper Relation of the High Schools of Colleges," Dr. F. W. Hinman, president Central University, Danville.

Immigrant Decision Hurts Texas Cotton Men.

Fort Worth, Tex., May 17.—A recent ruling of the commissioner of commerce and labor that poor Mexicans seeking to enter Texas be refused entrance by the immigrant inspector on the grounds that they are paupers is causing complaint from Texas cotton planters who allege they cannot obtain labor to ship out cotton on time.

Public Sale of Franchise.

Paducah, Ky., May 7, 1906.

I will offer for sale, at the city hall door, on the 30th day of May, 1906, between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock a. m., a franchise for operating a street railway in the city of Paducah, in accordance with an ordinance recently passed ordering such sale, and in accordance with the terms and conditions reserved in such ordinance.

The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

O. B. STARKS, Acting Mayor, City of Paducah, Ky.

Ban on Yankee Ice Cream Soda.

Berlin, May 17.—The Berlin health authorities have placed a ban on American ice cream soda, and instituted an analytical investigation to determine whether it is a danger to the community. The American candy store which opened in Potsdamerstrasse May 1 advertised as a specialty the introduction of the American summer girl's favorite beverage to the uninitiated daughters of the Kaiser's realm has been closed by the law.

Growing Aches and Pains.

Mrs. Josie Sumner, Bremond, Tex., writes, April 15, 1902: "I have used Ballard's Snow Liniment in my family for three years. I would not be without it in the house. I have used it on my little girl for growing pains and aches in her knees. It cured her right away. I have also used it for frost bitten feet, with good success. It is the best liniment I ever used." 25c, 50c and \$1.00.

Sold by Alvey & List.

Rackache, Pain in the Hips and Groins.

In most cases are direct results of WEAK KIDNEYS and INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER.

The strain on the Kidneys and in flamed membranes lining the neck of the Bladder producing these pains.

LARK'S KIDNEY GLOBES WILL CURE IT.

Two doses give relief, and one box will cure any ordinary case of Kidney or Bladder trouble. Removes Gravel, cures Diabetes, Seminal Emissions, Weak and Lame Back, Rheumatism and all irregularities of the Kidneys and Bladder in both men and women. Sold at 50 cents a box on the No Cure No Pay basis by McPherson's drug store, Fourth and Broadway, sole agents for Paducah, or sent by mail upon receipt of price to Lark Medicine Co., Louisville, Ky.

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As Easily As a Cough; Painlessly, Quickly and Without Cutting.

Trial Package Mailed Free.

The agony and suffering in piles is so great that if a surgical operation was a certain cure (which it isn't) and there was no other means of relief some persons might be willing to take the chance of blood poisoning or lockjaw.

But, now, that the Pyramid Pile Cure has been discovered and has been proven to be a quick and certain means of relief and lasting cure, there is no excuse for risking your life.

Does Pyramid Pile Cure give immediate relief? Does it cure? Try it and prove it to yourself as thousands have done before you. Then go to your druggist and get a 50 cent box and complete the cure.

Pyramid Pile Cure will cure you and do it with a certainty and a rapidity that will astonish you.

Take, for example, the case of Mr. Benjamin Shaw, postmaster of Bland, Mo. He quotes his own words in his letter of October 31, 1905: "I was in great agony of mind and body. In the meantime, a gentleman told me of the virtue of your Pyramid remedy. I fortunately found it at a drug store, and by the next morning I did not feel that any operation was necessary, and in three days I was able to return home and a complete cure was accomplished to my great satisfaction and the surprise of the physician."

For a trial package, send your name and address to the Pyramid Drug Co., 4619 Pyramid Building, Marshall, Michigan, and you will get a trial package by return mail. No marks.

PICKLED FINGERS.

Found in Bottle Floating in River at Foot of Campbell Street.

A negro fisherman found an open bottle containing three human fingers from the left hand of some white man floating in the Ohio river at the foot of Campbell street yesterday. He turned the find over to James Goacher, of the north side, and the fingers were placed in a clean bottle and preserved in alcohol. It is presumed the fingers are from the hand of some laborer injured by a mill accident, and that the fingers were thrown into the river after amputation, or possibly they were thrown into the river by some doctor who held his regular spring cleaning of office and adopted this means of ridding himself of an over supply of curios.

TO REFORM SCHOOL.

Sheriff Ogilvie Accompanies Two Negro Boys.

Isom Scott and Thomas Abritton, colored, were taken to Lexington to be placed in the reform school yesterday at noon. Sheriff John Ogilvie is in charge of the two prisoners. The sheriff's wife and niece accompanied him on the trip.

MAYFIELD.

Mose Hurt, a notorious negro character is lying in the county jail with a serious wound as a result of being stabbed with a knife in the hands of John Sherrill, a negro.

Several prominent business men and gentlemen of Paducah came out Sunday morning in their automobiles and spent a few hours in the city. Among them were Dick Rudy, Gus Thompson, C. M. Budd, Louis Rieke, Charles Fitzpatrick, Dan Fitzpatrick, Mr. McDermott and two other gentlemen whose names we failed to learn.

Mr. E. G. Fristoe, of this city, accompanied them on their return trip which was made in an hour and 35 minutes from this place.—Messenger.

Thos. Council has sold to Wm. Myers, of Paducah, 400 acres of fine farm land a few miles north of town. The consideration was \$5,000. Mr. Myers will improve the property.

Will A. Roberts and family who have been here on a visit to the family of W. H. Roberts, went to Viola Wednesday morning on a short visit before returning to their home in Paducah.

Charlie Rieke, of Paducah, is the guest of B. A. Long and family.

Miss Rosebud Hobson, of Paducah, is visiting the Misses Wire.

The dwelling and store house belonging to S. J. and A. W. Duke, located on West Water street opposite Traugher's grocery, was completely destroyed by fire Tuesday night while the families were away from home and were in Fulton.

Sunday School Convention.

The Sunday school convention will be held at McKendree church at Lamont, on Thursday night, May 17, at 7:45 o'clock. Lectures and addresses will be made by the Rev. T. C. Gebauer, of Louisville, state field worker, the Rev. William Bourquin of Paducah, president of the county association; the Rev. Watts, of Lovelaceville and others.

A police captain at Warsaw was killed by a bomb and seven other persons were wounded. The assassin was killed by a soldier.

Dangers of Defective Plumbing.

Defective plumbing permits the entrance into the house of sewer gas bearing germs of contagious diseases to which the human system readily succumbs.

Sewer gas is not necessarily generated in the sewer, but is frequently created in the plumbing system within the home and enters the apartments through defective fixtures.

If in doubt, consult us regarding the piping and replacing defective fixtures with "Standard" Porcelain Enameled Ware—acknowledged as the best sanitary equipment.

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